

## University of Groningen

### Feelings with no name

Goerlich, Katharina Sophia

**IMPORTANT NOTE: You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.**

*Document Version*

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

*Publication date:*

2011

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Goerlich, K. S. (2011). *Feelings with no name: in search of a neural basis for alexithymia*. [Thesis fully internal (DIV), University of Groningen]. [s.n.].

**Copyright**

Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

The publication may also be distributed here under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license. More information can be found on the University of Groningen website: <https://www.rug.nl/library/open-access/self-archiving-pure/taverne-amendment>.

**Take-down policy**

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

*Downloaded from the University of Groningen/UMCG research database (Pure): <http://www.rug.nl/research/portal>. For technical reasons the number of authors shown on this cover page is limited to 10 maximum.*

## **Acknowledgements**

It is now time to express my gratitude to the people who were an important part of my life as a PhD student and who contributed to my life and work in one way or another, rendering my PhD time valuable and unforgettable.

First of all I would like to thank my promotor, prof. André Aleman, my co-promotor, dr. Sander Martens, my collaborator in Boston, Christine Hooker, PhD, and my collaborator in Leiden, drs. Jurriaan Witteman.

**André**, thank you for your continuous trust in me and your support during these four years, for being open to my ideas, and for granting me so much freedom in designing the studies presented in this thesis. I am grateful and very happy for having had the possibility to conduct part of my research projects at Harvard University, which would not have been possible without your unwearied dedication and support. During these four years, I always knew that I could rely on you, and I appreciate this so much.

**Sander**, it was a pleasure working with you. Your trust in me, your enthusiasm, our discussions about science and the world were my constant motivation during my time as a PhD student. You were surprised how fast I write papers – well, big part of it was that I simply could not wait for the reward of seeing you happy when you read them. I enjoyed every minute of these four years with you as my supervisor, and I hope we will stay in touch for many years to come.

**Christine**, thank you for letting me join the SNAP lab as a research fellow, making it possible for me to conduct my MRI study at Harvard University. I learned so much in these 7.5 months, and I appreciate all the support you have been giving me. Working in your lab was a wonderful experience for me, surrounded by enthusiastic and lovely people. I especially want to thank **Tully**, **Sarah Hope**, and **Laura** for always being willing to answer my questions and for their constant moral support, and I want to thank **Chinmayi**, **Taylor**, **Velina**, **Roger**, **Nadja**, **Lizz**, and **TJ** for their great help in recruiting, screening, and scanning subjects. Special thanks go to **Lori Bruce** for her unfailing

dedication and invaluable support in functional as well as structural imaging data analysis. Thank you all, you are fantastic people, and I hope to see you again soon. I also want to thank **Tom Zeffiro** for teaching us in a comprehensive manner the secrets of SPM with the highest information to time ratio imaginable, and **Tammy Moran** for her invaluable technical support during scanning.

**Jurriaan**, I think our work is a wonderful example for how common interests at the scientific as well as at the personal level can result in a collaboration that is just as enjoyable as it is productive. We have come a long way since our first encounter at the Donders Centre, and after those four years I can say that I value you as a collaborator just as much as I value you as a friend. I am happy that our enthusiasm for music, psychology, and cognitive neuroscience proved strong enough to translate into EEG and fMRI studies, which have so far resulted in a PLoS ONE and a JOCN paper, and I know these are not the last papers of the Witteman – Goerlich collaboration.

I also want to thank the members of the reading committee, Hasse Karlsson, Hans-Jürgen Grabe, and Karin Roelofs, for critically reading my manuscript.

Given all the evenings and weekends spent in the NIC I have considered it pretty much as my second home during my PhD time, and I am sad to leave this place. The internationality of the NIC and the exciting discussions with interesting co-workers paired with the fun social activities created a highly inspiring atmosphere, and I can not imagine a better place to do my PhD. **Ramona**, I very much enjoyed the time when you were still my office mate, your presence made every day a fun day. **Johan**, dancing the Boogie Woogie and playing squash with you was ultimate fun, thank you so much. **Gemma**, thank you for your refreshingly ironic view onto the world and the good times we had exploring rock places in Groningen, London, and Barcelona. **Adrian**, even though you were not technically at the NIC I want to include you in this list and give you my special

thanks for all the witty and enjoyable conversations we had. I am looking forward to many more of those in the future.

**Remco**, you have a great talent turning statistics into an exciting real-life experience. I thoroughly enjoyed each of our discussions, characterized by subtle or not so subtle irony and wittiness which I appreciate so much. **Ruud**, your passion for neuroanatomy is contagious, and I enjoyed all of our interesting off-center discussions in the NIC or at the pool table. **Dave**, your expertise in and dedication to analysis techniques of imaging data is admirable, and I want to thank you for everything I have learned from you in the fMRI course and the methodology journal club.

Many thanks to the Cognies and other NIC colleagues who contributed to an always lovely work atmosphere: **Brani, Marte, Edith, Lisette, Leonie, Michelle, Jorien, Sima, Esther, Marieke, Marie-José, Nynke, Piotr, Bertus, Eline, Richard, Chris, Jan-Bernard, Harma, Jojanneke, Marleen, Anne-Marthe, Paolo, Annerieke, and Stefan. Leonardo and Luca**, thank you so much for many enthusiastic and original discussions. Special thanks I would like to express to my dear **Emi, Linda, Hanneke, Ildiko, Bregtje, Léon, Inez, and Piray**. Many thanks also to **Hedwig, Diana, Gerry, Tinie, Evelyn, and Janine** as well as to **Peter Albronda** - it was a pleasure working and talking with you.

I would also like to thank my family who have always been willing to support me: my father, my mother, and my brother; and my friends who will always be an important part of my life no matter how much time goes by: **Franziska, Claudia, Torsten, Inga, Micha, Florian, Gerd, Martina, Madeleine, Yasmin, Francesca, Katrin, Anand, Sylvia, and Thanos** – you are the best, thank you for everything.

**Cristian**, iubirea mea, cu puțin timp în urmă m-ai privit în ochi, m-am privit în suflet și am simțit că ai fost acolo mereu. Prin doar prezența ta îmi amintești că orice strădanie este ursită a sfârși într-un zambet. Îți mulțumesc pentru că ești și pentru că mă completezi. Cu tine sunt fericită și vreau să-mi fi alături mereu.